



COMMANDO

Any Time Any Place

Daily Newsletter Vol. 1, Issue 3

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Sept. 21, 2004

'Out of the woods'

Service members help remove tree limbs and other debris from the base chapel. Hurricane Ivan, identified as a Category 3 Hurricane, swept through the area Sept. 16 causing damage to Hurlburt Field.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Kimberly Gilligan

Family support center gears up for base relief efforts

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson
Public Affairs

It's been less than a week since Hurricane Ivan hit Hurlburt Field and the family support center is wasting no time providing assistance.

FSC staff members are in the process of setting up the family assistance center for members who need hurricane relief assistance, according to Barbara Weber, FSC director.

The FAC is established in times of contingency call-up, mobilization, and large-scale deployment to provide support and assistance to service members and their families," Mrs. Weber explained. "It's intended to simplify the process of accessing needed services and support for families called to active duty for an extended period of time. The primary mission of any FAC is to inform and emotionally support families so the military member can per-

form their mission."

The FAC will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. starting Wednesday at the deployment control center and will be available until services are no longer needed. Volunteers are needed and welcome to help out at the FAC, Mrs. Weber said.

Agencies such as legal, finance, TMO, chaplain, behavioral health, Air Force Aid, American Red Cross, family housing and others will be available during this time so people can get on the spot assistance.

"It's a one-stop shop for families to get the resources they need from several different agencies at once," Mrs. Weber said. "We hope to facilitate the process for families to get back on their feet after experiencing something of this nature. "We do ask that people bring with them, copies of their insurance policies and forms of identification."

The last time the FAC was activated at Hurlburt was after Hurricane Opal in 1995.

Legal office tackles issues, claims after Hurricane Ivan

By Vanessa Adame
Public Affairs

Dozens of Hurlburt Field service members affected by Hurricane Ivan filled the base theater today in hopes of easing the tedious process of filing an insurance claim and getting some much needed answers to their questions.

Members of the 16th Special Operations Wing Legal Office, responsible for organizing the informational briefings, stressed the Air Force will not pay for any damage sustained to personal property for off-base residents. The Federal Emergency Management Agency however, may offer assistance to those who don't have insurance on their off-base home or property.

Service members who live off-base, but had their vehicles parked on base "incident to service" may qualify for Air Force financial coverage if their vehicles sustained damage.

On-base residents do qualify for coverage. To qualify, service members must file with their respective insurance companies before filing a claim with the legal office. After notifying their insurance company, service members must submit a copy of their vehicle registration and insurance declaration, and at least one repair estimate to the temporary claims location at the deployment control center.

For those who sustained property damage to their belongings on base and would like to file a claim, insurance companies must first be notified. Subsequently, a breakdown of payment from the individual's insurance company and a repair or replacement estimate for items over \$100 must be

Help is on the way...

The Hurlburt Field Family Support Center has activated the Family Assistance Center, an emergency services resource to help families cope with disaster. For more information on available services call (877) 571-7209.

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Facility hours

The following facilities will be open during the following hours until further notice, or until otherwise posted:

Child Development Center - 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Extended Care Programs - available

Reef Dining Facility - open for breakfast, lunch and dinner

Riptide Dining Facility - open for breakfast, lunch and dinner

Riptide Fitness Center - open Wednesday, normal hours

Aderholt Fitness Center - 6:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Library - normal hours of operation

Shoppette/AutoPride - normal hours of operation

Commissary - normal hours of operation

J.R. Rockers - 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Soundside - open Thursday for functions

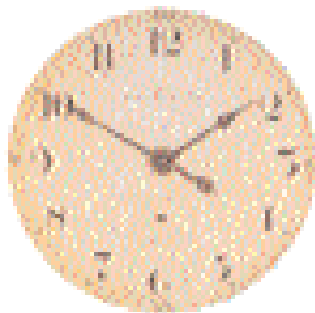
Family Support Center - Will open the Family Assistance Center Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Members can call 884-5441 or 877-571-7209 for more information.

Medical Clinic - Will resume operations Wednesday by appointment only. Emergency services are available.

FAMCamp -Open Wednesday

Information, tickets & travel - Temporarily relocated to Building 90505, 884-6357

Chapel Services - Daily - Catholic Mass, 11:30 a.m., **Wednesday** - Mid-week bible study, 6:45 a.m., **Saturday** -Catholic Mass, 5:30 p.m.,**Sunday** -Catholic Mass, 7:15 a.m., Traditional Protestant, 8:30 a.m., Catholic Mass, 10 a.m., Contemporary Protestant, 11:30 a.m.



Paving the way for a safe return

To ensure your safe return to Hurlburt Field Military Family Housing following the Hurricane Ivan evacuation, all residents are advised that recovery efforts in and around MFH are ongoing and will continue for some time. These efforts include removal of storm debris and downed trees, as well as assessment and repair of structural damage to homes.

Residents may assist in the general clean up of their homes and yards. Debris should be gathered and piled along access roads and piled in "like" piles, i.e...metal/tin pile, branches/leaves pile, etc. Trash should be bagged and trash bags stacked next to roads for pickup. **Anything potentially hazardous (i.e... downed power lines, drooping ceilings, etc) should be avoided, cordoned off, and the civil engineer squadron should be notified via the survival recovery center (SRC) 884-1154 (until further notice).** If possible, to facilitate claims processing, residents should photograph damaged household items/goods prior to clean-up.

Only CE personnel/authorized contrac-

tors are permitted to use chainsaws/like equipment to remove downed trees. Residents are generally advised to exercise extreme caution and avoid trees/wooded areas in MFH until removal efforts are complete. The Community Park and all neighborhood playgrounds are off-limits until CE personnel can assess and/or repair any damage to playground equipment. Additionally, the hurricane washed up potentially hazardous debris. Residents are strongly cautioned to restrict movement of family members/children to swept paved areas. Residents will be notified when these areas are safe to use.

For the immediate future CE will concentrate its efforts on major damages and repairs; residents should anticipate delays in processing routine housing maintenance requests.

We ask all residents for their patience as we work to recover from Hurricane Ivan and return Hurlburt Field to world-class status. Please contact the military family housing office at 884-7505, if you have any questions or require further information.

REPORT DAMAGE

Members who reside in family housing should call 884-1154/3064 if there is any damage to your home.

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obtained by the legal office.

Financial compensation can also be obtained by on-base residents who sustained food damage as a result of the power outage. An itemized list of food spoilage must be submitted to the legal office to process such claims.

All claims must be submitted to the legal office at the deployment control center beginning tomorrow, Sept. 22. Approximately 14 agencies, including the American Red Cross, the housing office, finance, 16th Services Squadron, the legal office and a chaplain will be available at the temporary location from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to assist service members. Anyone filing a claim must complete DD Forms 1842 and 1844, which will be available at the DCC. Photographs of any damage incurred may help process claims faster and easier. A power-of-attorney will be needed for military spouses filing a claim.

For more information on other services available call the family support center at 884-5441.

Safety tips

- When entering any building or home use precaution, items may be loose
- If traffic lights are down, treat every intersection as a four way stop
- Watch out for downed power lines, broken glass and snakes
- Unless you're part of an official recovery operation, stay out of damaged areas and debris piles
- If stopped by local authorities while traveling to and from Hurlburt Field during local curfew hours, present military or DOD identification and identify yourself as being assigned to Hurlburt Field
- On-base members can call the survival recovery center at 884-1154 to report storm damage
- Headgear is necessary when working outdoors and while operating two-wheeled vehicles
- Use caution when clearing brush and debris from homes, as snakes are prevalent after hurricanes
- Wear gloves and eye protection, as applicable, when clearing debris, etc.
- **Run water for 15 minutes ONLY ONCE upon returning home**

Commander's Column



Col. O.G. Mannon
16th SOW/CC

Thanks to everyone for the strong start in getting the base cleaned and back to pre-hurricane conditions. I'd also like to thank all of our base military family housing residents, for wasting no time in cleaning respective housing areas. Units should continue cleaning their facilities and the areas normally assigned to them during the basewide "green machine" clean ups. In addition to these areas, Groups will be responsible for cleaning the areas as described below:

Group	Area	POC
Maintenance	Lodging	Tech Sgt. Erika Fisher
Maintenance	Community Park	Bill Gore
Operations	Aderholt Fitness	Tech Sgt. Nick Tsanos
Ops/Med Group	Soundside	Jeff Rickert
Mission Support	Comm Center area	Ed Veith
Mission Support	Red Horse Road	Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Jessup



Electricians from the 16th Civil Engineer Squadron make repairs on a 23rd Special Tactics Squadron building.

Photos by Airman Ali Flisek

Day 6 of recovery efforts



Airman 1st Class James Tavenner, 16th Security Forces Squadron (above), rakes leaves behind the SF's building.

It's been six days since Hurricane Ivan left its mark on the base. Since that time, recovery operations have been in high gear. Base members are compiling tons of debris, metal and garbage that were thrown about during the mighty storm. Contractor personnel are also involved in assisting with the recovery of the base.



Off-base contractors (above) pick up debris at the Soundside Housing area. (Left) Airmen with the 16th CES hook a chain to a broken tree branch in order to pull off limbs that could be a potential hazard.